

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 05738 200134Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5738

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TSPA, UN, IS
SUBJECT: OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE ENLARGEMENT

REF: USUN 5290

1. ON 19 DECEMBER AMB. LEONARD SUPPORTED ISRAELI DESIRE TO JOIN OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE IN CONVERSATION WITH WEO CHAIRMAN BARTON (CANADA), AS HAD MISOFF AT STAFF LEVEL WITH CANADIAN DEL ON 14 DECEMBER. BARTON NOTED LARGE NUMBER OF WEO'S KEENLY INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COMMITTEE; THESE INCLUDE NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL AND SPAIN, AND GREECE, AS OF THE WEEKEND, WAS "INTERESTED". BARTON AGREED THAT HER SCIENTIFIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS WOULD MAKE ISRAEL A CONSTRUCTIVE MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE. HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT INTENSITY OF COMPETITION WAS SUCH THAT WEO CANDIDACY FOR THE 1 SEAT GA PRESIDENT MOSJOV HAS BEEN PLANNING TO ALLOCATE TO THE GROUP WOULD HAVE TO BE DECIDED BY DRAWING LOTS, AND HE DID NOT BELIEVE HE COULD INCLUDE ISRAEL AMONG THE LOTS WITHOUT THE AGREEMENT OF THE GROUP.

2. ISRAELI AMB. ELIAV SUBSEQUENTLY EXPRESSED ISRAELI MISSION THANKS FOR OUR SUPPORT.

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3. QUITE APART FROM THE OUTER SPACE COMMITTEE ISSUE, BARTON IS CONDUCTING CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE WEO'S TO DETERMINE ATTITUDES TOWARDS ISRAEL'S JOINING THE GROUP. HE TOLD LEONARD THAT HE HAS BEGUN BY CONSULTING WITH THE US AND UK AND WILL NOW PROCEED CAREFULLY WITH OTHER MEMBERS.

4. AFTER WEOG CONSULTATIONS DECEMBER 19, BARTON HAS INFORMED

MOJSOV THAT WESTERN GROUP BELIEVES IT IS ENTITLED TO TWO NEW SEATS, AND SUGGESTED THAT THIS BE DONE EITHER BY TAKING ONE OF THREE SEATS SLATED TO GO TO ASIANS (WHO ONLY HAVE TWO CANDIDATES) OR AMENDING THE ENLARGEMENT RESOLUTION TO ALLOW FOR 11 RATHER THAN 10 NEW MEMBERS. WEOG GROUP ALSO INSISTS THAT ITS FINAL DECISION ON CANDIDATES WILL BE TAKEN ONLY BY JAN. 31, 1978 AND NOT BY END OF 32ND UNGA AS DEMANDED BY MOJSOV. CANADIAN DEL ALSO NOTED THAT BUFFUM BELIEVES ONE WAY TO AVOID FLOOR FIGHT ON ALLOCATION IS TO INCREASE NEW MEMBERS TO 14. US DEL SAID THAT US DID NOT ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH THESE PROPOSALS FOR ADDITIONAL ENLARGEMENT IN VIEW OF OUR OPPOSITION TO ORIGINAL COLUMBIAN PROPOSAL.

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